

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejection and further examination are requested.

Claims 5-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito (US 2002/0034966) in view of Ishikawa (US 2003/0047341).

Claims 5 and 7 have been amended so as to further distinguish the present invention, as recited therein, from the references relied upon in the above-mentioned rejection. Further, new claims 9 and 10 have been added.

In light of the above-mentioned amendments to claims 5 and 7, the outstanding rejection is submitted to be no longer applicable for the following reasons.

Claim 5 is patentable over the combination of Saito and Ishikawa, since claim 5 recites a terminal device including, in part, a second antenna unit connected to a first antenna unit so as to be connected to a transmission and reception antenna via the first antenna unit, the second antenna unit for transmitting and receiving radio signals directly to and from a wireless network. Saito fails to disclose or suggest the second antenna unit of claim 5.

Saito discloses a personal computer 16 having a body 14 including a side face 14A. The side face 14A includes a PC card slot 17 that is capable of receiving a wireless PC communications card 10. The communication card 10 has a card case 11 including an insertion part 11A which slides into the PC card slot 17 and an antenna housing 11B. The insertion part 11A includes a circuit board 31. The antenna housing 11B includes first and second inverted-F type flat-plate antennas 33 and 34 installed adjacent to each other at a designated interval across the width of the antenna housing 11B and connected to the circuit board 31. (See page 2, paragraphs [0045] and [0046]; page 5, paragraphs [0081]-[0085]; and Figures 4, 11 and 12).

In the rejection, the first and second inverted-F type flat-plate antennas 33 and 34 are relied upon as corresponding to the first and second antenna units of claim 1, respectively, and the circuit board 31 appears to be relied upon as corresponding to the transmission and reception antenna. However, as discussed above, Figure 12 of Saito illustrates that both the first and second inverted-F type flat-plate antennas 33 and 34 are adjacent to each other and connected directly to the circuit board 31. Therefore, it is apparent that the second inverted-F type flat-plate antenna 34 is not connected to the first inverted-F type flat-plate antenna 33 so as to be connected to the circuit board 31 via the first inverted-F type flat-plate antenna 33. Therefore,

Ishikawa must disclose or suggest this feature in order for the combination of Saito and Ishikawa to render claim 5 obvious.

Regarding Ishikawa, it is relied upon as disclosing an information apparatus 30 having a housing 31 and front-cover assembly 32 with a PC card slot 38 located therein. (See page 2, paragraph [0049] and Figure 4B). However, it is apparent that Ishikawa fails to disclose or suggest the above-discussed feature of claim 5. Therefore, Ishikawa fails to address the deficiency of Saito. As a result, the combination of Saito and Ishikawa does not render claim 5 obvious.

As for claim 7, it is patentable over the combination of Saito and Ishikawa for reasons similar to those set forth above in support of claim 5. That is, claim 7 recites a terminal device including, in part, a second antenna unit connected to a first antenna unit so as to be connected to a transmission and reception antenna via the first antenna unit, the second antenna unit for transmitting and receiving radio signals directly to and from a wireless network, which feature is not disclosed or suggested by the combination of Saito and Ishikawa.

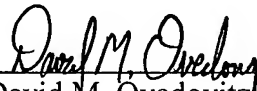
Because of the above-mentioned distinctions, it is believed clear that claims 5-10 are patentable over the references relied upon in the rejection. Furthermore, it is submitted that the distinctions are such that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would not have been motivated to make any combination of the references of record in such a manner as to result in, or otherwise render obvious, the present invention as recited in claims 5-10. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 5-10 are clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 30, 2007